

2002 Report of Accomplishments

Othello Conservation District



Natural Resource Improvements in 2002 - Summary

- *Instrumental in Irrigation Water Management being applied to approximately 100,000 acres of commercial farming*
- *In access of 300,000 gallons of water saved per acre would equal approximately 50,000 acre feet of water across the District.*
- *IWM also saves approximately \$5.00 per acre in power cost or approximately \$500,000 in power savings.*
- *Management of irrigation water thru IWM has reduced the aquifer contamination of drinking water significantly in this area.*
Dropping the average of wells above federal drinking standards from 23% down to 22%.



Mission of the Othello Conservation District

- *To represent and assist cooperators to adopt, implement, and promote conservation practices.*

Basic Funding

- *Provide services to local cooperators when other funding is not available.*
- *Coordination with other funding sources such as GWMA, NRCS and the Othello Sandhill Crane Festival.*

Local Funding

- *City of Othello Hotel/Motel 2% tourism tax funding for the Sandhill Crane Festival.*
- *Funding from the Ground Water Management Area for various projects.*

Dairy

- *All six of the dairy nutrient plans were approved.*
- *Worked to create a nutrient management plan for a new large dairy approximately 10,000 cows.*
- *Dairy technician worked with a large number of feedlots and cattle operators to fulfill their NPDS requirements and or make corrections due to water quality violations.*

Community Collaboration & Coordination

- *Coordinated the sixth annual Othello Sandhill Crane Festival, a local environmental festival attracting in excess of 1,500 participants.*
- *This activity is in conjunction with approximately 30,000 Sandhill cranes migrating through our area.*
- *Othello CD Supervisors provide guide service for visiting participants during the Sandhill Crane Festival.*
- *District employees coordinate year round the Sandhill Crane Festival and its business activities.*

Information & Education

- *Worked with GWMA and adjoining CD's to support Water on Wheels program in our area, which teaches approximately a third of our school children within our District of approximately 10,000 within the tri-counties.*

Washington Conservation Districts assisting land managers with their conservation choices